

## **APPENDIX J**

### **SCOPING MEETING FACT SHEETS**





# Fact Sheet 1

## Casper Resource Management Plan Revision

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Casper Field Office Planning Area, Wyoming



November 2003

### Guide to the Four Fact Sheets

#### ☛ Fact Sheet 1: RMP Revision Process

Fact Sheet 2: How You Can Participate  
Fact Sheet 3: Preliminary Planning Issues  
Fact Sheet 4: RMP Revision Topics

### What is the RMP Revision Process?

In 1985, the existing Resource Management Plan (RMP) was completed. Since 1985, the RMP has undergone many maintenance-related actions. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to develop RMPs and to update or revise the RMP when appropriate. The approach to the Casper RMP revision includes building on experience, new science, and working with collaborators.

### What Does it Mean? An Acronym Guide for the RMP Revision.

The Casper Field Office is undertaking a revision of its RMP. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will also be included as part of the revision. Fact Sheet 2 contains a guide to the revision process. Below are commonly used terms:

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** – is our country's charter for protection of the environment. It requires all federal agencies to evaluate the impact of proposed major federal actions (in this case the RMP revision) with respect to their significance on the human environment.

**Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA)** – governs administration of public lands by the BLM. The act establishes the commitment to retain

ownership of public lands, improve deteriorated lands, and manage lands to ensure productive capacity in perpetuity.

**Resource Management Plan (RMP)** – the purpose of the RMP is to establish goals and objectives for resource management; identify lands that are open and available for certain uses and lands that are closed for certain uses; provide comprehensive management direction for all resources and uses; and contain broad scale decisions guiding future site-specific implementation decisions.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)** – is one type of document prepared by federal agencies in compliance with NEPA which portrays the potential environmental consequences of proposed major federal actions (in this case the RMP revision).

**Management Situation Analysis (MSA)** – is an in-depth assessment of various resources and uses on public lands. The MSA Summary presents an overview of the resources, current management practices, and issues identified to date.

**Scoping** – is the process that federal agencies use to identify public and agency issues and concerns relating to management actions on federal lands. Scoping is the process of identifying the range of issues, management concerns, preliminary alternatives, and other components of an EIS and RMP.

**Preliminary Planning Issues** – represent the BLM's knowledge to date on issues with the existing RMP.

#### For more information or to comment contact:

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# Fact Sheet 2

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## How You Can Participate in the Resource Management Plan Revision

Throughout the revision process, there will be several opportunities for you to comment and provide your input. Public involvement is an essential part of the process. With public involvement and environmental analysis, the NEPA process will support the BLM in making informed decisions.

To the right is a diagram of the revision process and below is a description of the ways you can participate at different times in the process.

**30-Day Scoping Period**— The scoping period began with the publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register on **June 20, 2003**. Although the BLM Resource Management Planning Regulations (43 CFR 1610.2) include a 30-day scoping period, the RMP scoping period is 5 months and will close on November 20, 2003. A series of public meetings will be held throughout the planning area to provide you with information and solicit your comments and input.

**90-Day Public Comment Period**— After the Draft EIS is published (Winter 2004/2005), you will have an opportunity to provide comments and input again.

**30-Day Protest Period**— After the Final EIS and RMP are released you have an opportunity to protest the selected management alternatives.

**Newsletters**— Throughout the planning process, we will be sending those of you on the mailing list schedule updates, opportunities for public input, and other relevant information.

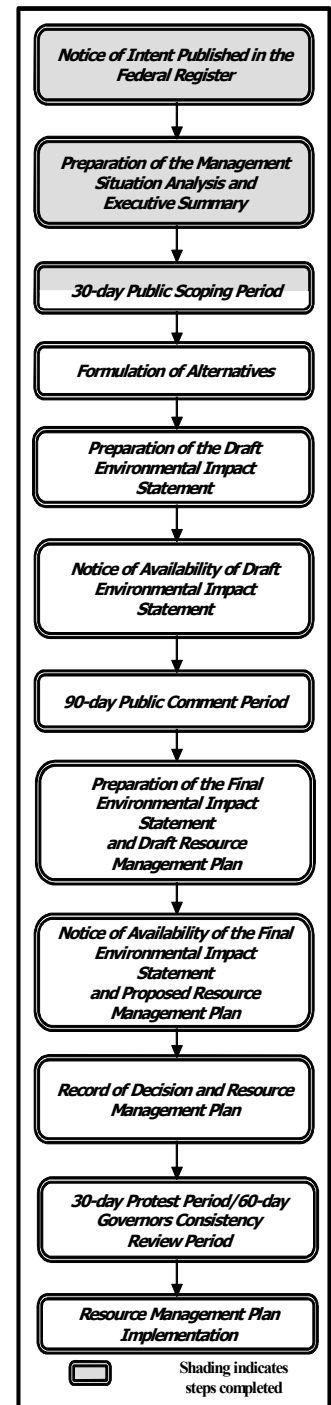
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**BLM RMP Website**— We have created a RMP website at [www.blm.gov/rmp/casper](http://www.blm.gov/rmp/casper) where you can find up to date information on the RMP process and upcoming events or key documents. There is a page on the website where you can add your name to the mailing list and submit comments!

### Where do we go from here?







# Fact Sheet 3

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☛ **Fact Sheet 3: Preliminary Planning Issues**

Fact Sheet 4: RMP Revision Topics

## What Issues are We Considering in the Resource Management Plan Revision?

We are interested in considering important and pertinent issues in the revision of the RMP for the Casper Field Office Planning Area. Issues represent opportunities, conflicts, or problems about use or management of public land resources. The resolution of issues is the basis for preparing the RMP. Below is a list of the preliminary planning issues we are considering so far. Other issues are identified in the MSA Summary. If you feel there are additional issues that we have not considered, please contact us by the means indicated below.

### Preliminary Planning Issues

- A. Energy and mineral resource exploration and development;
- B. Access to and transportation on BLM lands;
- C. Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicle management;
- D. Wildlife habitat and management of crucial habitat and migration corridors;
- E. Management and cumulative effect of land uses and human activities on Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Sensitive species and their habitats;
- F. Vegetation, including impacts of invasive non-native species;
- G. Management of cultural and paleontological resources, including National Historic Trails;
- H. Land ownership adjustments;
- I. Fire management;
- J. Livestock grazing;
- K. Visual Resource Management; and,
- L. Air and water quality.

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# Fact Sheet 4

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## What Topics are We Considering in the Resource Management Plan Revision?

The BLM manages and administers resources and uses throughout the planning area. To comment on these resources or uses go to [www.blm.gov/rmp/casper](http://www.blm.gov/rmp/casper).

### Physical and Biological Resources

**Air Quality** — Includes overall air quality and emissions and can include smoke and dust.

**Cultural Resources** — Includes historic and prehistoric artifacts, buildings, structures, mines, trails, railroads, ditches, trash dumps, historic landscapes, and archeological sites. Cultural resources may also include Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP), which are properties that are critical to a living community's beliefs, customs, and practices.

**Fish and Wildlife** — Includes species of fish and fisheries habitat in streams, lakes, and ponds. Also includes vertebrate wildlife species that occur in the planning area including reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals. Does not include threatened, endangered, sensitive, or other special status species.

**Geology** — Includes physiography, earthquakes, landslides, topography, floods, snowslides, and slumps.

**Paleontology** — Includes fossils, dinosaur remains, paleontological digs, and research permits.

**Special Status Species** — Includes plant and animal species that are listed as threatened or endangered in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. Also includes BLM-designated sensitive species.

**Soil** — Includes soil disturbance from mineral extraction, erosion and surface runoff

**Vegetation** — Includes grassland and shrubland communities, riparian and wetland communities, woodland and forest communities and invasive non-native plant species. Does not include special status plants.

**Visual Resources** — Includes scenic views, visual quality, visual resource management (VRM), and overlooks.

**Water** — Includes water quality and quantity.

### Resource Uses

**Minerals** — Includes coal, coalbed methane, oil and gas, locatable minerals (such as uranium and bentonite), and salable minerals (such as sand, gravel, and decorative stone).

**Lands and Realty** — Includes rights-of-way for pipelines, utilities and roads, land acquisition and disposal, easements, withdrawals, land use authorizations and trespass identification and abatement.

**Livestock Grazing** — Includes grazing allotment issues, grazing leases, range improvement projects, livestock fences, livestock reservoirs, springs, water wells, and vegetative treatments.

**Recreation** — Includes sight-seeing, touring, hiking, mountain biking, backpacking, photography, wildlife viewing, camping, fishing and hunting.

**Renewable Energy** — Includes wind energy, geothermal resources, solar power/energy, and other sources.

**Transportation and Access** — Includes mass transit, access to public lands, and infrastructure management.

### Fire Management

Includes naturally occurring fires and prescribed burns, as well as fire suppression techniques.

### Special Designations

May include designations such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), National Historic Trails, Recreation Management Areas, and Wilderness Study Areas.

### Social and Economic Conditions

Includes health and safety issues, economic development, and environmental justice.

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